

FOSTER RAIL

Future of Surface Transport Research Rail

Coordination and Support Action

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FOSTER RAIL Conference

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¹ Dissemination level: **PU** = Public, **PP** = Restricted to other programme participants (including the JU), **RE** = Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the JU), **CO** = Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the JU)

² Nature of the deliverable: **R** = Report, **P** = Prototype, **D** = Demonstrator, **O** = Other

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1. Executive Summary

The FOSTER RAIL final conference was hosted in Brussels on 7 April 2016 with approximately 60 participants attending. The conference, being a joint ERRAC and FOSTER RAIL event fell into three parts: **Firstly** an overview about the ongoing rail research initiatives in Europe (incl. HORIZON 2020 and Shift²Rail), **secondly** a discussion on future of ERRAC incl. the sector's contribution to shaping a common vision on rail research and **thirdly** the presentation of the 10 FOSTER RAIL roadmaps.

The conference concluded with the recommendation to take the findings of the FOSTER RAIL projects into account for the future work of Shift²Rail and other rail research related initiative sin Europe.

2. Agenda



ERRAC / FOSTER RAIL Final Conference

7 April 2016, 10.00-15.00

Brussels Marriott Hotel Grand Place | Rue A.Orts, 3-7, 1000 Brussels

Provisional Agenda

<i>as of 09.30 Registration and welcome coffee</i>		
10.00	Welcome from the Chairman	Andy Doherty , Chairman, ERRAC
10.10	Keynote speech from the European Commission	Keir Fitch , Head of Unit, DG MOVE William Bird , Programme Officer, DG RESEARCH
10.25	Shift ² Rail – state of play	Keir Fitch , ad interim Executive Director, Shift ² Rail JU
10.35	Future of ERRAC - presentation of ideas plus discussion	Andy Doherty , Chairman, ERRAC
11.15 <i>Coffee break</i>		
11.30	FOSTER RAIL – General Introduction	Dennis Schut , Coordinator, FOSTER RAIL
11.50	FOSTER RAIL roadmaps show: RM01; RM02; RM03; RM04	Roadmap leaders Moderated by Dennis Schut, UIC
12.40 <i>Networking lunch</i>		
13.30	FOSTER RAIL roadmaps show: RM05; RM06; RM07; RM08; RM09; RM10	Roadmap leaders Moderated by Dennis Schut, UIC
14.40	Comparison SRRIA/S2R Multiannual Action Plan	Manuel Pereira , Vice-Chairman, ERRAC
14.50	Concluding remarks	Andy Doherty , Chairman, ERRAC
15.00 <i>End of conference</i>		



3. Summary

The European Rail Research and Advisory Council (ERRAC) met in Brussels on 7 April 2016 for the final event of the Foster Rail FP7 Project. During the conference, the ERRAC members agreed on the evolution of the ERRAC European Technology Platform (ETP) and released a detailed set of roadmaps that had been previously planned in the Strategic Rail Research and Innovation Agenda (SRRIA) published in November 2014.

Founded in 2001, ERRAC fosters rail sector innovation by guiding research efforts at the European level with the ambitious goal of creating a single European body with the competence to help revitalise and boost the competitiveness of the European rail sector. Since its inception, ERRAC has produced a number of important and influential documents and has been supported by the European Commission thanks to the implementation of Coordination and Support Action (CSA) projects.

The ten roadmaps announced at the conference set research and innovation priorities on a thematic basis that focus on the attractiveness of rail and public transport. The themes of the ten roadmaps are: “Customer Experience”, “Strategy and Economics”, “Safety and Security”, “Capacity, performance and competitiveness”, “Energy and Environment”, “Control Command, Communication and Signalling”, “Infrastructure”, “Rolling Stock”, “IT and other enabling technologies”, and “Training and Education”.

These roadmaps set out a challenging agenda for research and innovation in the rail sector in the coming decades. Some of the research areas outlined are already being addressed by the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking and other rail research initiatives while other parts are aspirational, yet realistic. The SRRIA, on which these roadmaps are based, specifically outlines the European research and innovation efforts needed to achieve the ambitious goals set by the European Commission in the 2011 Transport White Paper that specifically calls for a modal shift to rail for freight and passenger transportation segments.

With the conclusion of the Foster Rail project in April 2016, and as there are no new CSA projects planned by the European Commission in Horizon 2020 to support ERRAC activities, ERRAC must now evolve in order to continue its supporting role of the rail community. In order to do so, ERRAC will build upon the technology and strategy development work carried out by railway sector associations, especially in the urban and freight areas. It will also exploit the technology strategies developed by railway undertakings and suppliers in order to relay the needs of the sector to the EU institutions with updated and new European rail research and innovation strategies.

4. List of participants

Participants list		
First Name	Last Name	Signature
Caroline	ALMERAS	[Signature]
Yves	AMSLER	[Signature]
Mihai	BARCANESCU	[Signature]
Derek	Beckmann	[Signature]
Jan	BERGSTRAND	[Signature]
William	BIRD	[Signature]
Eva	BÖCKLE	[Signature]
Lutz	BOHLIN	[Signature]
Martin	BRENNAN	[Signature]
Daniel	CADET	[Signature]
Nicolas	CASTRES SAINT MARTIN	[Signature]
Christian	CHAVANEL	[Signature]
Christophe	CHERON	[Signature]
Philippe	CITROËN	[Signature]
Charlotte	COUPE	[Signature]
Antoine	DEFOSSEZ	[Signature]
Carole	DESNOST	[Signature]
Andy	DOHERTY	[Signature]
Anders	EKMARK	[Signature]
Keir	FITCH	[Signature]
Simon	FLETCHER	[Signature]
Norbert	FRANK	[Signature]
Nicolas	FURIO	[Signature]
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Immediato	GENEROSO	[Signature]
Jose Antonio	GORTAZAR	[Signature]
Patrizio	GRILLO	[Signature]
Markus	HECHT	[Signature]
Joao	HEITOR	[Signature]
Vera	HOLDURDUIA	[Signature]
Ulrich	Heuser	[Signature]
Lukas	HEZLAR	[Signature]
Vera	HOLDURDUIA	[Signature]
Guertem	IMPERATO	[Signature]
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Ben	OLSSON	[Signature]
Witold	OLPINSKI	[Signature]
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Witamei	PEREIRA	[Signature]
Yves	PERREAL	[Signature]
Sophie	PERROCHEAU	[Signature]
Witartm	PLATZER	[Signature]
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Jürgen	SCHLAHT	[Signature]
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Giorgio	TRAVAINI	[Signature]
Cristian	ULIANOV	[Signature]
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Agathe	MARIE	[Signature]
Carlo	Borghini	[Signature]
Jaques Pato		[Signature]
Markus Holzer		[Signature]
Andreas	ERS	[Signature]

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5. Pictures



Picture 1

Opening of the final conference by the chair Andy Doherty and vice chair Manuel Pereira



Picture 2

Key note speech by Keir Fitch



Picture 3

Overview on Shift²Rail by Kir Fitch

6. Conclusion

The FOSTER RAIL project will be completed in April 2016 and there are no new CSA projects planned by the European Commission in Horizon 2020 to support ERRAC activities. Indeed, only one CSA is currently running: the SETRIS project. However, this project is focusing only on cross-modal issues and therefore does not address all rail issues.

Therefore, ERRAC is entering in a new phase requiring an evolution of the ETP to continue its supporting role to the rail community.

The ERRAC members reinforce our commitment to ERRAC, as an independent ETP supporting the railway sector needs, its users and potential users. We believe that the mission of ERRAC remains essential to achieving the future development objectives of railways:

- 1) ERRAC will remain the high level advisor to railways and the society, working transparently and keeping the many sectors of the railway talking with a common voice.
- 2) ERRAC will remain the rail sector-led stakeholder and considered the key actor in driving innovation and European competitiveness
- 3) ERRAC will continue producing strategic documents (such as research and innovation agendas and roadmaps) aiming at the identification of technologies and innovations appropriate to railways for action to be supported by both private and public funding.
- 4) ERRAC will continue to mobilise rail stakeholders to deliver on agreed priorities and share information and will still be open to new members that could enrich the ERRAC vision.
- 5) ERRAC will take into consideration the rail challenges and demonstrate how railway transport can contribute in a positive and efficient manner to others global challenges (e.g. society, environment, decarbonisation).
- 6) ERRAC will seek support from funders and stakeholders for further funding for railway needs from H2020, other sources and from future EC Programmes for the preparation of Shift2Rail n°2 Program.

ERRAC will utilise and build upon the excellent technology and strategy development work carried out by the Sector Associations, especially in the Urban and Freight areas. It will also utilise the railway technology strategies developed by the Railways and Suppliers to describe the development needs through further updates and new Roadmaps and Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda.